

PUBLIC DANCE ORDINANCE. #7

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Walla Walla County, Washington:

SECTION. 1. The term "public dance" as used in this Resolution shall be construed to mean any dance to which the public generally may gain admission with or without the payment of an admission fee. The term "dance hall" shall be construed to mean any room, hall, pavilion, boat, float, building or other structure kept for the purpose of conducting therein public dances or dancing, and shall include eating establishments where dancing is permitted by the customers to the music of either an orchestra or a music box.

SECTION 2. No person, co-partnership or corporation shall hold any dance or conduct or maintain any dance hall outside the limits of incorporated cities or towns within the County of Walla Walla without having first procured from the Board of County Commissioners of Walla Walla County a license so to do. Licenses for dance halls shall be issued by the year or by the quarter as requested by the applicant. A license for a single public dance shall entitle the holder thereof to conduct such dance only on the day and at the place specified in the license. No license to conduct a public dance or dance hall shall be granted unless the applicant therefor be of good moral character. No license shall be granted to any corporation, but if any dance hall shall be conducted by a corporation, the license shall issue to the manager or other directing head thereof.

SECTION 3. The fee to be paid for a dance hall license shall be as follows: One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for an annual dance hall license; Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) for a quarterly license; Two Dollars for a license for a single dance. The County Commissioners may issue a permit without charge for Grange, patriotic, fraternal or community dances.

SECTION 4. No immoral, indecent, suggestive or obscene dance shall be given or carried on in any dance hall or at any dance licensed hereunder. All buildings, halls, rooms, pavilions or other places in which public dances are carried on, as well as all halls, corridors and rooms leading thereto or connected therewith shall at all times while open to the public be well lighted. No public dance shall be conducted nor dance hall kept open between the hours of one o'clock A. M. and six o'clock A. M. unless a special permit is obtained from the Board of County Commissioners. No person under the age of eighteen (18) years shall be permitted to attend any public dance without the escort of his or her parents or legal guardian. Any person under the age of eighteen (18) years who shall by affirmative misrepresentation of age obtain admission to or permission to remain in any public dance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. The Board of County Commissioners may in its discretion refuse to grant licenses for dance halls to be located at such places or to be conducted at such times as will in its judgment interfere with the comfort and happiness of the community in which such proposed dance hall is to be located. All peace officers of the State

of Washington shall have free access to public dances and dance halls for the purpose of inspection and to enforce compliance with provisions of this act.

SECTION 5. Application for licenses hereunder shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners and be accompanied with a receipt showing the payment to the County Treasurer of a license fee. After determining to grant a license to the applicant, the Board shall notify the County Auditor, who shall issue the license to the applicant. All licenses granted hereunder shall be kept posted in a conspicuous place on the licensed premises.

X SECTION 6. Any license granted to conduct a dance hall may be revoked by the Board of County Commissioners after a hearing held upon not less than ten (10) days' written notice to the licensee, and the action of said board in revoking any such license shall be final and conclusive. Every licensee accepting a license hereunder shall be deemed to have consented to the provision of this section with respect to the cancellation of licenses. No license granted hereunder shall be transferable except by a formal order of the Board of County Commissioners, nor shall any dance hall or public dance be conducted at any place other than that specified in the license therefor.

SECTION 7. Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine in any sum not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding ninety (90) days or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SECTION 8. This resolution is adopted in the interests of public safety, health and morals and shall take effect immediately.

PASSED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS this 15th day of December, 1947.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

Preston Hanson, Chairman
Orin M. Walker, Commissioner
Arthur E. Cox, Commissioner

Attest:

Walter Kimmerly
Clerk of the Board.